GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:308
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2002
GOAL OF PRIMARY EDUCATION
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank invited some countries to join the education for all fast track programme aimed at helping developing countries to meet the Millennium Development Goal of providing primary education to every child by 2015;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether India has also joined the same; and

(d) if so, the kind of help provided or likely to be provided by the World Bank in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b): The Development Committee of the World Bank in its Spring Meeting held on April 21, 2002, has reaffirmed the commitment to achieve universal primary education by 2015 and eliminate gender disparities in education by 2005, to meet the Millenium Development Goal ongender equality in Primary and Secondary Education. The Action Plan decided in the meeting includes strengthening information systems and data base to ensure outcome focussed EFA monitoring, country-wise analysis on policies/financing gaps, supporting capacity of countries to raise learning outcomes, mobilizing adequate resources including significant increase in external funding for primary education and identifying countries for initiating 'fast-track' process to provide quick and incremental support to reach universal primary completion by 2015.

(c) & (d): India has supported the plan for arriving at an international consensus to achieve primary education for all children by 2015. The Government of India has introduced the Constitution (93rd Amendment) Bill in Parliament to make elementary education a Fundamental Right for all children in the age-group 6-14 years. It has also launched the national programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) to provide eight years of quality elementary educationto all such children by 2010. The allocation for elementary education has been also enhanced from Rs. 16,369 crores in 9th Plan to Rs. 28,750 crores in the 10th Plan.The World Bank also proposes to scale up its resource transfer to the elementary education sector substantially during the coming years.